

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street—
SARATOGA.BOOTH'S THEATRE, 33d st., between 13th and 14th
AVENUES.NEW YORK STADT THEATRE, 45 Bowery—SERENADE
IN LORE.NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway—THE SPECTACLE OF
THE BLACK CROOK.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 12th street—
FAINT HEART NEVER WON FAIR LADY—USED UP.LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, 72 Broadway—HIS LAST
LEAGUE—MARRIAGE.GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 34th and 35th sts.—
LES BRIGANDES.OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway—THE PANTOMIME OF
WIZ WILLIE WINKIE.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—FELON'S DOOM—ROB-
BERS OF THE HEATH—SATAN.WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 30th st.—Perform-
ances every afternoon and evening.GLOBE THEATRE, 720 Broadway—VARIETY ENTERTAIN-
MENT, &c.MRS. F. R. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn—
VICTIMS—SOLON SHINGLE.TORY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery—VARI-
ETY ENTERTAINMENT.THEATRE COMIQUE, 5th Broadway—COMIC VOCAL-
ISM, REGIO ACT, &c.—THE FINE FRENCH.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 558 Broadway—
NEBRO MINSTRELS, FARGES, BOURBON, &c.REYNARD'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 33d st., between 6th
and 7th avs.—NEBRO MINSTRELS, BOURBON, &c.STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street—GRAND VOCAL
AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT.APOLLO HALL, corner 28th street and Broadway—
DR. COHEN'S DIORAMA OF IRELAND.NEW YORK CIRQUE, Fourteenth street—SCENES IN
THE RING, ACROBATS, &c.ROOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn—ROOLEY AND
KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS.BROOKLYN OPERA HOUSE—WELCH, ROGERS &
WHITE'S MINSTRELS—CARRY THE NEWS TO MARY.DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 74 Broadway—
SCIENCE AND ART.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway—
SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Tuesday, January 17, 1871.

CONTENTS OF TO-DAY'S HERALD.

- PAGE
1—Advertisements.
2—Advertisements.
3—Chancy's Army: HERALD Special Report of the
Great Struggle: Map of the Battle Field of Le
Mans—Operations in the North—Bourbaki's
Advance—Paris Bombarded: HERALD Special
Report from the Besieging Army.
4—Proceedings in Congress—Right of Riparian
Owners—The Nathan Murder—The Rogers
Tragedy—The Methodist Muddle—Voice of the
People—News from Cuba—The Alaska Seal
Fishers—Shocking Case of Barbery—General
News Items.
5—The St. Domingo Project: Ben Wade and His
Exposition in This City: Secretary Fish's
Documents Relative to the Status of Domingo
Before the Senate—The Pennsylvania Repub-
licans—The Massachusetts Convention—News
from South America—Lecture of Dr. McCosh—
Crime in the City—News from the Pacific
Coast—War on American Fishermen.
6—Editorials: Leading Article, "The Bombard-
ment of Paris—The War—The End at Hand—
The HERALD's News Victories"—Amusement
Announcements.
7—Editorials (Continued from Sixth Page)—Paris
Bombarded—Inside the Doomed City—The
Type and the Church—The Cross of Geneva—
The European Congress—Views of the Paris
Business Notices.
8—The Loss of the Saginaw: Statement of the
Sole Survivor of the Ship's Crew—Political In-
telligence—The Taylor Will Case—Ruffolo, the
Birmingham Murderer: Facts Connected with
the Killing of his Wife and Child—The New
Steamship Alexandria—Bankruptcy: Impor-
tant Decision Affecting the Right of Appeal—
Admiralty: Important to Shipmasters and
Towboat Owners—Meeting of the Board of As-
sistant Aldermen Yesterday.
9—Proceedings in the Courts—Important to Real
Estate Owners—Commercial and Mercantile
Reports—Journalistic Notes—Marriages and
Deaths—Advertisements.
10—The State Capital—News from Washington—
Smith's Silver Bank of the Mohawk Valley,
and that Service of Plate—Amusements—Ship-
ping Intelligence—Advertisements.
11—Advertisements.
12—Advertisements.

SENATOR ABBOTT, of North Carolina, is
very strongly opposed to general amnesty.
Since Vance has been elected to succeed him
he believes the rebels never will be truly loyal.

FOUR NEW GEORGIA MEMBERS have been
admitted to the House, three of them democ-
rats and the other a blacker republican than
Revels. If this is the best that the radicals
can get out of the most reconstructed State of
all, it is worth their while bothering with re-
construction any further?

PRESIDENT GRANT is to visit Philadelphia
to-day to settle that vexatious question of a
Pennsylvania member of the Cabinet. Some-
thing must be done to keep these Pennsylva-
nia people quiet, and we do not think that
Geary or Forney would be too much of an in-
dignity to secure that blessed end.

GENERAL SCHENCK declines a banquet
tendered him by his friends in Cincinnati prior to
his departure on his mission to Great Britain.
In consequence of some blunder in the arrange-
ments. It is a pity more blunders of the same
kind do not occur in the same relation. This
system of toasting and feasting men sud-
denly elevated to important positions is more
worthy of being honored in the breach than in
the observance.

THE OUTRAGES IN NORTH CAROLINA still
continue. There is a gang of outlaws, it
seems, in Robeson county who keeps the citi-
zens continually in a state of terror. On
Saturday a man named Taylor was shot and
killed by a squad of these, while a company
of federal troops were only two hundred yards
distant. The murderers escaped. There
seems to be no remedy for this dreadful state
of affairs, except the arming of citizens and a
general hunting down of the assassins.

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE.—Some of our con-
temporaries have been making a great cele-
bration over their enterprise and expenditure in
gathering special news from the fertile fields of
the French war, and yet our own outlay in
the particular feature of special cable tele-
grams from France within the last few weeks
has exceeded the outlay for the same purpose
of all other papers in this city combined. We
have paid out a sum that would be a rich
income for some of the princes and archdukes
of the German States—the Holsteins and
Sigmaringens and so forth, and half a dozen
other smaller principalities of Europe. In
return we have given whole pages of specials
from Europe almost every day. If our self-
exalted contemporaries doubt that we have
paid more than all the city papers combined,
or if the public should require proof, we should
like to have them consult the books of the
telegraph office, which will show the actual
amount paid by every journal in the city.

The Bombardment of Paris—The War—
The End at Hand—The Herald's News
Victories.

The end is at hand. The readers of the
HERALD who, from the lifting of the curtain,
have followed through our columns, from day to
day, the progress of this terrible drama in
France, will fully comprehend the meaning of
this brief announcement. It means that
heroic Paris, with the terrors, as of a rain of
fire and thunderbolts from the heavens, super-
added to the pressure of famine and the
hopelessness of sorties and outside relief, is at
the point when she must choose capitulation or
destruction. It means that at any moment
now we may get the news by the cable, our
lightning conductor across the water at the
bottom of the sea, that Paris has surrendered,
with the three or four hundred thousand
armed men within her encircling walls and
fortifications, and that this overwhelming col-
lapse will be the end of the war.

We say the end of the war, because, from
the movements of all her outside forces to
rescue Paris, it is evident that France in this
struggle has staked everything upon Paris,
and that Paris is France. The fall of Paris
will add to the three hundred and fifty
thousand French soldiers held now as prison-
ers by Germany not less, from all accounts,
than three hundred thousand more, assuming
that Trochu, whatever he may still attempt,
will fail to break the enclosing German wall of
frowning cannon and bristling bayonets.
Thus, with the loss of Paris France will be
deprived of the strength, including her best
generals, of say six hundred and fifty thousand
of her best soldiers, held as prisoners of war,
and of at least two hundred thousand killed,
wounded and otherwise disabled since July.
How, then, with Paris gone and all its warlike
materials, can France, shorn of eight hundred
and fifty thousand of her fighting men—how
can she continue the fight against the undim-
inished legions of disciplined Germans upon
her soil? As it is, all the French armies, on
every side, operating for the relief of Paris,
have been baffled and thrown back or de-
feated and dispersed. Chancy's overthrow at
Le Mans is a sort of Waterloo in itself; and,
from all appearances, only a timely retreat to
some distant or otherwise secure shelter will
save Faidherbe, Bourbaki and Garibaldi from
the misfortune of Chancy.

But, again, the capitulation of Paris will
enable Von Moltke to reinforce the German
armies operating in the west, north, south and
east of France to the extent of at least two
hundred and fifty thousand veteran troops.
This is doubtless understood, even by Gam-
betta, who has been prosecuting this war
as a bold adventurer, who has nothing to
lose from continued war and nothing to
expect from peace. Hence his desperate
efforts to prolong the struggle, reckless of the
consequences to Paris and to France. We
believe, however, that Trochu is more the
patriot than Gambetta, and that when it is
made manifest to him that further resistance
is useless and worse than useless, he will, in a
self-sacrificing spirit of patriotism, humanity
and common sense, surrender the city to save
it and its people from death and destruction.

Meantime the bombardment of Paris goes
on day and night. The surroundings of the
city are in ruins or in flames. Explosive bolts
of iron, of over two hundred pounds in weight,
howling like demons in their destructive
flight, are plunging down through the humblest
roofs and grandest domes in the heart of the
doomed metropolis. It is the bombardment of
Strasbourg ten times magnified. In its
destructive projectiles, and in the warlike
engines and forces employed, it dwarfs
all precedents of modern or ancient times.
The remorseless siege and destruction of Car-
thage, we do not forget, involved the extinc-
tion of a great nation and a great people;
nor will the intelligent reader fail to recall
the appalling loss of human life—eleven hun-
dred thousand souls involved in the siege and
burning of Jerusalem by Titus; nor do we
overlook the sacking and burning of Rome by
Alaric; but neither Babylon, Tyre, Jerusalem,
Carthage or Rome, furnishes anything in the
horrors of war more shocking to the Christian
humanitarianism of the nineteenth century than
this horrible bombardment of Paris, with its
blind and indiscriminate killing and mangle-
ing of soldiers and non-combatants, the strong
and the helpless, men, women and children.

Yet this is modern war, with "all the
modern improvements." As the historians of
passing events, however, it is the province of
a great journal to record them faithfully and
without flinching. This duty in our daily
reports of this war, as of our war with Mexico,
and of the European revolutions of 1848-9,
and the war in the Crimea, and the war in
Italy and the Schleswig-Holstein war, and the
war of our great rebellion, and the war of the
French occupation of Mexico, and the war
between Prussia and Austria, and the mar-
velous campaign of Napoleon's Abyssinian ex-
pedition, and the war in Paraguay, and the revo-
lution in Spain, and as in our reports of
various other wars, is a duty which, regardless
of expense and labor, we have faithfully
endeavored to do. We undertake to say, too,
that the future historian of this Franco-German
war will find more reliable materials in the
contemporaneous files of the NEW YORK
HERALD for his work than in any other public
journal of the time, from the beginning to the
end.

Take, for example, the graphic letter of our
special correspondent at Strasbourg, describ-
ing the complete equipment and the imposing
appearance of the magnificent army column
of MacMahon of fifty thousand men as it
marched out of that strong frontier city to
meet the enemy. Take, next, our correspon-
dent's letter describing the battle, and the
ghastly field of the battle of Worth and the
route of MacMahon, which changed at once
Napoleon's march to Berlin to a German
movement for Paris, and we have two very
important points of the beginning of this war
so broadly covered by our despatches as to
give the key to all the French disasters
that have followed. Indeed, in our
specials, from Prim's disastrous nomi-
nation of the courageous Hohenzollern
as King of Spain to this bombardment of
Paris, the HERALD furnishes a history of this
war more interesting than any future historian
will be able to give, with all the official
materials from both armies at his command.
Look at our daily special despatches by the
cable, sometimes covering a page of this

paper and costing us hundreds and thousands
of dollars from day to day, and the reader will
understand the secret of the HERALD's still
enlarging popularity. We not only furnish
our American contemporaries a large propor-
tion of their most valuable news despatches,
but much information of European events to
European journals. Meanwhile our columns
will answer for us that we are first in the field
and first from the field with the news of any
important event or movement in our own
country or continent.

Our editorial opinions, too, of the drift,
tendencies and probable consequences of pass-
ing events, and of social, religious, industrial,
financial, political, diplomatic and military
movements in the four quarters of the globe,
are drawn from experience, research and care-
ful analysis, and free from party or sectarian
entanglements. Thus, independent of party
influences on all sides, we are free to deal with
facts as we find them, and so the HERALD has
given and gives not only an unbiased history
of this war, but a dispassionate judgment as
between the two great nationalities and all
other parties concerned in it or in its far-
reaching consequences. The fall of Paris is
near at hand, and this event, we think, will
be the end of the war and the beginning of the
London Conference.

The Military Situation in France—The
End Approaching.

All that looked so bright and promising for
France but a few short weeks ago is now
changed to gloom and darkness. Patiently
Paris awaited the armies which were organiz-
ing in the provinces for the relief of the
capital; patiently the Parisians suffered the
pangs of hunger, while the forces throughout
the nation were preparing to succor them;
patiently rested the vast army inside the walls
of the doomed city, but earnestly longing
for the day when the appearance of the
tricolor outside would be the signal for a
grand sortie *en masse* of the imprisoned
army to cut its way out, effect a junction with
the forces which had come to the rescue, and
then united make a grand struggle for the
liberation of France; but patience and hope
have alike been wasted in vain, and France
to-day lies more prostrate than ever beneath
the victorious banner of the Germans.

Though the fight has not yet been fought to
the bitter end, it is evident that it is fast draw-
ing to a close. The same heroism, animated
by the same spirit, at an earlier stage of
the war might have saved the French
nation the humiliation it must neces-
sarily undergo in order to satisfy
the German Kaiser. Not throughout
the whole history of the campaign have we
read of such determined resistance on the
part of the French as that which occurred in
the two days' battle before Le Mans, the par-
ticulars of which we have been enabled to lay
before our readers from the pen of a HERALD
correspondent, who was present during the
battles. Chancy's army behaved like veterans.
Considering its recent organization and the
forces to which it was opposed its efficiency
was almost marvellous. For two days it
fought with terrible earnestness, yielding posi-
tions only after the German veter-
ans of the Red Prince had paid
heavy forfeitures of valuable lives,
and even when night closed on the second day's
struggle the French, though beaten, held a
line of battle ready to renew the conflict on the
forthcoming day. Night came, but with it
came not rest. Under the cover of darkness
the German legions moved on the unprepared
French, panic ensued, and then commenced
the retreat in earnest of the French Army of
the Loire. Falling back, pursued by the Ger-
mans, the French retired from the field. It
was no rout, however; but what condition
Chancy's army is in for further operations we
are not yet prepared to say; but certain it is
that some time must elapse ere it can again
resume the offensive, and in the time thus re-
quired for reorganization the cause of France
may be lost and Paris be in the hands of the
German King.

While the armies of Prince Frederick
Charles and General Chancy were man-
euvering in front of each other General
Faidherbe in the north was inactive. Since
the battle of Bapaume Faidherbe has done
nothing up to the present time. Now we hear
he is again moving, but what he intends to
accomplish, now that Chancy has been beaten,
it is not quite clear. Had he been active two
weeks ago, had he attempted something daring,
he might have prevented reinforcements from
being forwarded to aid the Red Prince in his
operations against the Army of the Loire.
Twenty-five thousand men less on the German
side in the recent battles might have
turned the scale at Le Mans. It is now too
late, and Faidherbe can accomplish nothing.

Passing from the fields of operations in the
southwest and in the north to the east we
find that Bourbaki is working with extraor-
dinary energy to create a diversion in the
Vosges. Success rewards him, but we feel
satisfied that it is too late, even though he
has been successful to the full measure of
success the contest seems almost hopeless.
The tragedy is almost finished, the climax
approaches, and the present movements of the
contending forces in France seem but as the
groupings previous to the fall of the curtain.

OUR SPECIAL TELEGRAPH LETTERS FROM
EUROPE—QUICK WORK BY ELECTRICITY.—
The two special telegraph letters from Berlin
which we publish to-day, on the subjects of
the European Congress in London and report-
ing Count Bismarck's indictment, by official
circular, of the French republic for violations
of the usages of war, were written in the
Prussian capital yesterday morning, tele-
graphed to London, forwarded by our agent
to the office of the cable company, and thence
transmitted by the ocean wire to New York.
The letter despatches reached the HERALD
Building in the forenoon and appear *verbatim*
in our columns this morning, having made the
circuit in a space of time less than one day by
many hours. The shade of Puck is almost
beatified. The American people will be pleased
with our enterprise. Enough!

HON. HENRY WILSON has been substan-
tially re-elected to the Senate by a caucus of
the Massachusetts Legislature. He and Sum-
ner have been Senators continuously for the
last sixteen or eighteen years. Massachusetts,
unlike the Henry Wilson of thirty years ago,
seems determined to stick to her last.

Destruction Within the Walls of Paris.

Paris newspapers of the 10th inst. were re-
ceived at half-past nine on Friday evening in
London, which announced that a destructive
rain of projectiles—some of them weighing
ninety-six kilograms, or one hundred and
ninety-two pounds—was pouring into that por-
tion of Paris lying between the Hotel des Inval-
ides and the Odéon. Doubtless the zone of
destruction has ere this been enlarged so as to
include the whole of the Faubourg St. Ger-
main and the Quartier Latin and much of the
vicinity of those historical places. Even
these had not escaped the transformations
wrought by Haussmann, but most of their
monuments were reserved for the more terri-
ble ravages to which they are now exposed.
If it be true that a shell has already struck the
gilded dome of the Hotel des Invalides, the
wish of Napoleon the First that his ashes
"may repose on the banks of the Seine," has
been strangely annulled by the Prussians.
Not only is the Hotel des Invalides under
fire—with its costly imperial tomb and its
church, with all the banners taken by the
French in their wars with other nations, and
its gallery with its plans of the principal fort-
ified cities of France and of the battle of Lodi
and the siege of Rome—but so are also a multi-
tude of churches and hospitals and palaces and
colleges and public libraries and museums and
railway stations and dwellings, belonging alike
to the memorable past and the living present.
A bare enumeration of the more interesting
objects on which the iron hail of war is now
falling within the walls of Paris would fill
columns of the HERALD. There are the hotels
of the old noblesse of the Faubourg St. Ger-
main, more or less faithful to the elder branch
of the Bourbon family throughout all vicis-
situdes since the great revolution; the hotels
of the Rue de Lille, the Rue de Varenne,
the Rue de Grenoble, the Rue St.
Dominique and the rest—grim enough
outside, but imposing and sumptuous within
and boasting still of spacious gardens, but
nearly all at present deserted. There are
palaces—the Palais du Corps Législatif, the
Palais de la Legion d'Honneur, the Palais du
Quai d'Orsay, the Palais de l'Institut, the
Palais des Beaux Arts, the Palais du Luxem-
bourg and what remains of the Palais des
Thermes, with the splendid Museum adjacent,
the Musée de Cluny et du Moyenage, rich in
medieval art treasure, the loss of which could
never be replaced.

Then there are many other museums within
the "zone of destruction"—the Museum of
Artillery, the Museum of the Manufacture of
the Gobelins, with its unrivalled tapestries;
the Musée Dupuytren; the Museum of Natural
History at the Garden of Plants, and the
Museum of the Works of Living French
Artists at the Luxembourg Palace. Notwith-
standing the telegraphic despatch which says
that these precious works have been destroyed,
we are unwilling to believe that the precau-
tion of removing them to a place of safety, accord-
ing to an intimation announced by the Paris
authorities nearly three months ago, has been
neglected.

Beyond the delightful garden of the Luxem-
bourg rises the Observatory, founded by the
famous Colbert, and dear to astronomers from
the days of Cassini to those of Arago and
Leverrier. Not far from the same garden are
the numerous colleges, lyceums and schools
which, either connected or not with the Uni-
versity of France, have contributed so largely
to place the French nation at the head of in-
tellectual progress. The Sorbonne is occu-
pied by three of the Faculties of the Uni-
versity, theology, literature and the
sciences. The Ecole de Médecine and the
Ecole de Droit are devoted to the
other two Faculties, medicine and law. Besides
these there are the Collège of France, the Ecole
Normale, the Ecole Polytechnique, the Ecole
de Mines, the Ecole des Ponts et Chaussées,
and many other special schools, together with
several Lyceums, such as the Louis-le-Grand,
the St. Louis and the Napoleon, formerly
Henri IV. Among the great public libraries
now liable to be destroyed by as barbarous a
fire as that which burned the old Alexandrian
library, must be specially named the Mazarine
and the St. Geneviève, to say nothing of
the invaluable aggregate of book wealth com-
posed by the libraries of the various colleges
in the Quartier Latin.

There are, moreover, the hospitals—the
Hôpital de la Charité, the Hôpital du Midi,
the Hôpital des Cliniques, the Hôpital for
the Blind, the Hospital for the Deaf and Dumb,
and, to enumerate no others in the long list of
civil hospitals, the world-renowned Foundling
Hospital. Foremost among the military hos-
pitals is the Hôpital du Val-de-Grâce, with
its ancient church, the corner stone of which
was laid in 1645 by Louis XIV., and which is
clustered richly with proud and tender his-
torical reminiscences.

Among the other churches in this doomed
portion of Paris we need only mention St.
Germain-des-Prés, St. Etienne-du-Mont, with
its exquisite gallery; St. Sulpice, with its two
disimilar towers; St. Thomas d'Aquin, St.
Geneviève, or the Pantheon, and that elegant
modern edifice, Ste. Clotilde, to show how
rich it is in ecclesiastical associations, which
are now being desecrated.

With the Odéon, the second Théâtre Fran-
çais, we must not forget the little theatre of
the Bobino, so full of lively memories for a
whole generation of *étudiants* and *étudiantes*,
nor the *closerie* des Lilas, close by the place
where Ney was shot.

Finally, the railway stations for Seaux and
Versailles, *rive gauche*, are directly in the
range of the terrible storm of destruction
which is now falling within the walls of Paris.

THE LEGISLATURE.—No business of local
interest was transacted in the Legislature yester-
day, except the introduction of a bill in the
Assembly to repeal the Experimental Railway
act in this city, thus knocking the elevated
railroad of Greenwich street off its last leg
and kicking out all its supporting crutches.
The Election Committee heard argu-
ments in the Twombly-Carey contest,
Tom Fields having called for an early
report, while the confident republican mem-
bers were enjoying themselves at Henry
Smith's little testimonial dinner in New York,
thus springing a trap upon the minority which
may settle the contested case very summarily.
Majorities are whittled down to such a fine
point now that no member can take his dinner
with the certain conviction that he is not doing
irreparable injury to his party.

Special Visit to the Vatican—Cardinal
Antonelli's Exposition of the Condition
of the Church and the War in Europe.

A special correspondent of the HERALD
in Rome supplies the very interesting and
attractive letter which appears in our columns
from the Holy City to-day. This communi-
cation is of much importance also, for it
speaks of many serious events from a grand
centre of information, and by the tongue and
lips of a man who is, to a very considerable
extent, the moving power of that centre—his
Eminence Cardinal Antonelli. The HERALD
writer, dating in Rome on the 8th inst., for-
warded his narrative to London by mail.
From the English capital it was telegraphed
specially through the cable to New York. Our
representative in the Eternal City had just
visited the Palace of the Vatican. He was
accorded a friendly personal audience by the
Cardinal Secretary of State of his Holiness.
Rome remained unaltered near to the
residence of the Pontiff. The street scene
was almost the same as in former years. Quiet
prevailed inside the doors of the palace.
Unawed, perhaps unmoved, by the tumults of
the outside world—by "wars and the rumor of
wars"—the dwelling of the Pope, the very
essential seat to which "the orphans of the
heart" turn for consolation, presented little
change. There were Swiss Guards at the
door and on the grand staircase, ushers both
lay and clerical, well disciplined servants, a
priestly major domo and polite attention.
The HERALD correspondent, cognizant pre-
viously of the routine etiquette, advanced
rapidly. Cardinal Antonelli received him, as
will be seen by our special report, in the most
cordial manner. The Cardinal was at once
animated and unrestrained in his manner and
conversation. He spoke of many topics,
passing in his naturally happy manner of re-
mark from "grave to gay, from lively to se-
vere." He appeared rejoiced at having been
afforded an opportunity of forwarding a mes-
sage of Pontifical thanks to the congregations
in America for the Catholic condolence and
material aid which they have already afforded
to the Holy Father. He sends it through our
columns. Of the Roman question the Cardinal
does not think it will be satisfactorily
settled until after the close of the Franco-
Prussian war. Of this terrible and destruc-
tive struggle he says that it should have
terminated at Sedan, and that Prussia com-
mitted a "mistake" in refusing such an issue.
The Cardinal has a poor opinion of the men
who now rule France. His Holiness the
Pope enjoys excellent health. Under the
influences of a contented mind and regular
daily exercise the Pontiff shows forth the
mens sana in corpore sano. Cardinal Anto-
nelli described some of the most exelling
scenes which were witnessed on the occasion
of the recent inundation of a portion of the
city of Rome, setting forth the prompt and
charitable action of the Pope and the ready
invention and orderly conduct of the citizens
for the relief of the sufferers. The Cardinal
referred, as if casually, to the Italian occupa-
tion of Rome. He said that that event had
caused him so much additional labor that he
was prevented from accompanying the Pope
in his daily walk in the garden of the Vatican
during the past three months, with the excep-
tion of one occasion. Volatile in tempera-
ment, as a pure Italian, his Eminence closed
the conversation with a few well-timed plea-
santies, conducted our correspondent to the
door with the most suave politeness, and bade
him the "ade" "ade" in a tone which charac-
terized the Christian priest and accomplished
gentleman.

The French Envoy to the London
Congress.

M. Jules Favre has addressed a letter to
the European Powers in reply to Earl Gran-
ville's circular, inviting the French govern-
ment to commission an envoy to the
London Conference on the Black Sea
navigation question, and the proposed
revision of the Treaty of Paris of 1856. M.
Favre is placed in a position of very peculiar
difficulty. He is willing to attend the meeting
of the plenipotentiaries in London, being
convinced of the fact that the absence of
France from the assemblage will, in the
technicalities of European diplomacy, invali-
date the entire proceedings of the body. But
M. Favre is in Paris. Paris is closely invested
by the Prussian army and just now under fire
of King William's guns. M. Favre is forced,
consequently, to sigh, somewhat after the
fashion of Yorick's startling "I can't
get out! I can't out!" United States Minister
Washburne has tendered his services to obtain
him a pass and safe conduct through the
Prussian lines, but, as he alleges, "the Ger-
mans fire on flags of truce." So what with
the bombardment of their big guns and his
dread of danger from their small arms M.
Favre fears that he must remain just where he
is, and lose the opportunity of furnishing mat-
ter for "some future Livy" to tell of what timely
services he may have rendered to his country.
The matter of the Congress appears sur-
rounded with difficulties even to-day. One
thing is becoming more evident, however, that
international "red tape" does not tend to
unite nations in the bond of international sin-
cerity. Fear or distrust "admitted into pub-
lic councils betrays like treason." So spake
Cato in the Roman Senate in the face of a
common danger, and the words are applicable
to the situation which exists in Europe to-day.

SHERIDAN'S "RIDE" IN EUROPE.—A special
HERALD telegram from Florence, forwarded by
way of London and through the cable yester-
day, informs us that Major General Sheridan,
of the United States Army, had just been en-
tertained at a royal banquet given in his honor
at the Pitti Palace of the old capital of the
nation. Rumor was active, even in diplomatic
circles, on the subject of the object of the
European tour of the General, particularly as
to his visit to Florence. The present conclusion
was to the effect that he journeyed in the in-
terests of peace, with the intent of appealing
to the great neutrals in favor of a powerful
mediation between Prussia and France for the
termination of the war. Who knows? The
General is already famous as a peacemaker.

THAT PRECIOUS CARBON, who was so
opposed to the sale of Dominica by Baer, is
appears from documents in the State Depart-
ment, once tried to sell himself. Such people
ought not have a country to sell. It ought to
be annexed.

Congress Yesterday—General Amnesty—The
Asylum for Disabled Soldiers—The Air
Line Railroad Bill—The Brooks and
Hastings Controversy—Telegraph Cable
Legislation.

Senator Trumbull made a fruitless effort yester-
day to impress the Senate with the neces-
sity and good policy of passing a General
Amnesty bill, excluding only persons who
come within a certain classification, instead of
constantly peddling out pardons in special
cases. He offered to withdraw opposition to
one of these special bills if the Senate would
agree that this would be the last of them; but
he could not get assent to that proposition,
and the matter went over without action. The
question of converting the asylums for disabled
soldiers into political headquarters for which
ever party happens to be in power was also
discussed indefinitely yesterday on a bill
ceding back to the State of Ohio jurisdiction
over the grounds belonging to the National
Asylum at Dayton. The usual claptrap
about disfranchising the poor soldier was
indulged in; but the very worst use he can be
put to is to be made the tool of the politicians.
Let the war-worn veteran spend the evening
of his days in peace, unweaved and uncon-
taminated by politics.

Monday is the great day in the House of
Representatives for the introduction of bills on
leave and their reference to committees. It is
a sort of weekly seed day, when all manner of
things are sown broadcast, of which very
little is ever expected to germinate, and
probably the less the better. The usual quantity
was thrown into the furrows yesterday, none
of it, however, deserving special notice or
attention. The Air Line Railroad bill had
a slight airing, the House having
voted, by one hundred and fourteen
to seventy-eight, to allow it to
be introduced, and then, the question being on
its passage, the morning hour expired and the
bill went over till next Monday. Four Repre-
sentatives from Georgia, one of them a bright,
likely mulatto, were admitted without ques-
tion or discussion, and were so much added to
the aggregate wisdom of the national councils.
That ever-vexed question of the cartage sys-
tem of the New York Custom House came up,
in the shape of a resolution, offered by Mr.
Sunset Cox, which was referred to the Com-
mittee of Ways and Means. The controversy
between Mr. James Brooks, of the *Express*
and House of Representatives, and Mr. Hugh
Hastings, of the *Commercial Advertiser*,
created a slight breeze in the House through
the presentation of a memorial of Mr. Hast-
ings denying the authenticity of that famous
Albany affidavit, and claiming that, as it was
a fair stand-up editorial, political and per-
sonal fight, the House should not interfere, but
let the combatants fight it out in the courts
and in their newspapers. Mr. Ladin, who
presented the memorial, moved its reference
to the select committee appointed on the sub-
ject, with instructions to make a preliminary
report as to the propriety of proceeding with
the investigation. The House refused to vote
such instructions, and simply referred the me-
morial to the committee, which commences its
labors to-day.

The subject on which the most noise was
made in the House yesterday was that relating
to ocean telegraph cable legislation. On Mon-
day of last week a concurrent resolution was
passed, without special attention being called
to it, referring all bills, resolutions and peti-
tions on the subject to a special joint com-
mittee of both Houses. When, subsequently,
the discovery was made, there was no parliamen-
tary means of reconsidering
the action taken; but yesterday Mr.
Banks moved to suspend the rules and
to adopt a concurrent resolution rescinding
that of the previous Monday. In the discus-
sion that ensued he intimated that the motive
for taking the question away from the Com-
mittee on Foreign Affairs, which had already
considered it and had reported a general bill
on the subject, was because that committee
had decided against reporting in favor of sub-
sidies to any of these cable companies. The
House refused to suspend the rules and to
adopt the rescinding resolution,